BOOM!

CRASH
CRUNCH
BASH

RAVEN!
Hsssssssss

No, not again...
Twitch
Throb

ZWITCH!

RIIIIIIIIP!

(GASP)
That was definitely the third wierdest thing that has ever happened to me.

Master William! Where are you? I heard an explosion!

Ms.Nim is that you? I know I was not to leave the city, but I heard the noise. Is William--
He's fine Tin-can, how is the city?
The people are fine, the shadowmandyrs have all disappeared.

I don't think there's any left in the forest either...
I haven't had this much fun in weeks!

And what about you and your friends Credenza? Are you well?
I don't know. Two of them got thrown into the trees by the explosion...
Two? But I can only smell one person in that direction...

It's hard to explain, just try to get a doctor out here or something, they, I mean he, might be hurt.

There is something very odd about that girl...
Aside from the whole traveling around with twin sharkmen thing?
Yes, besides that. She is young, but her magic is very old.

Raven?
Blitz?

Hnngg...
Raven! Are you okay?

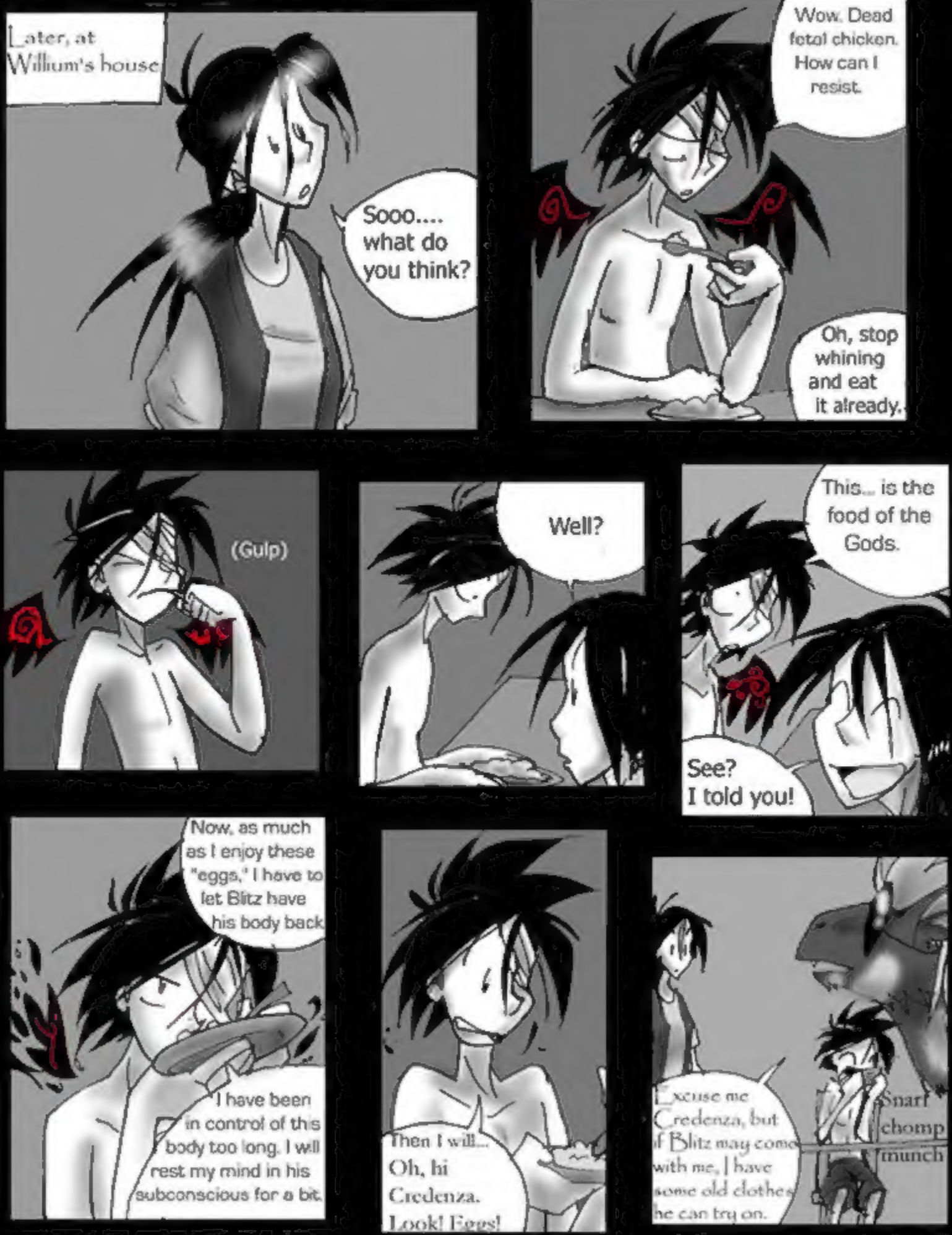
Oh no, you're hurt! Your head is bleeding!
Noo, ish jusht a concusshion, I'll be fine...
Umm, sure, but I think I should get a doctor anyway.

Wait, I don't understand...

I fulfilled the contract between us, I did what you wanted. I'm a spirit without a shell, why are you helping me?

I... I don't think I understand what you're talking about...
Raven wanted to destroy me, because I was no longer useful. Why are you helping me?

You're only helping because I am in Blitz's body.
Are all humans this annoyingly persistent?
Or is it just her?
That's not true, I'm helping you because it's right.
I did what you needed me to do, what other purpose do you have in mind for me?
Why doesn't she just go away?
Leave me to die...
You don't need a purpose to make me care about you.
Is she insane?
OW! PAIN!
What are you talking about? I have done nothing to show that I deserve help.
You wanted to save Simon. You're a kind soul, even if you don't know what kindness is.
I want to help you. Now where is that cut, there's a lot of blood...
Kindness?
I was not made for kindness...
Wait, there it is.
Is this kindness?
Hey, it's only a little cut! It's just bleeding a lot.
It feels... nice.
Other than being a little warm, you'll survive.
Wait, that can't be right! I feel awful! And my stomach is making vile noises.
Well, when was the last time you ate or slept?!
I think about two days ago, when we were at the inn. Why?
All you need is some breakfast. Do you like eggs?
What are eggs?


Later, at Willum's house
Sooo.... what do you think?
Wow. Dead fetal chicken. How can I resist.
Oh, stop whining and eat it already.
(Gulp)
Well?
This... is the food of the Gods.
See? I told you!
Now, as much as I enjoy these "eggs," I have to let Blitz have his body back.
I have been in control of this body too long. I will rest my mind in his subconscious for a bit.
Then I will... Oh, hi Credenza. Look! Eggs!
Excuse me Credenza, but if Blitz may come with me, I have some old clothes he can try on.
Snarf
chomp
munch

What a huge house. I wonder where everyone has gone to...

Credenza!
Scree!

We haven't seen you since last night. We even got lost looking for you on the third floor!
Riley! Mom said no tackling young women!
Aw, guys, where have you been?

Willium was just telling us we're welcome on Coin island anytime we like.
Great! Does that mean you're staying here?
Of course not, we're going with you!

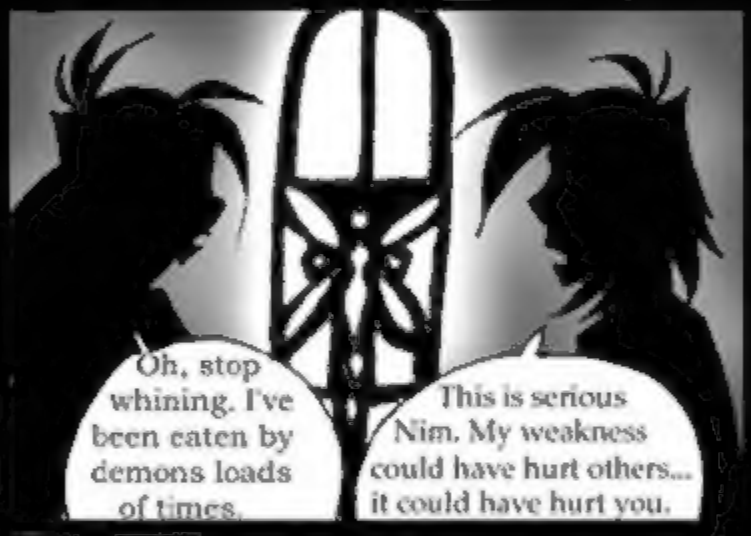
I promised to take you to Hidden Island, and that's what I'm going to do.
What? Riley, I won't hold you to that promise, you could have a home here.
Ah, well, after six years on the move, it would just feel wrong to live in one place.
But you don't even know why I'm going there!

You're going, and that means we're going. You're our friend Credenza.
Is that your only reason?
It's the only one we need.

Do you see what I was talking about Willium? Look at her...
Yes, I see what you mean...

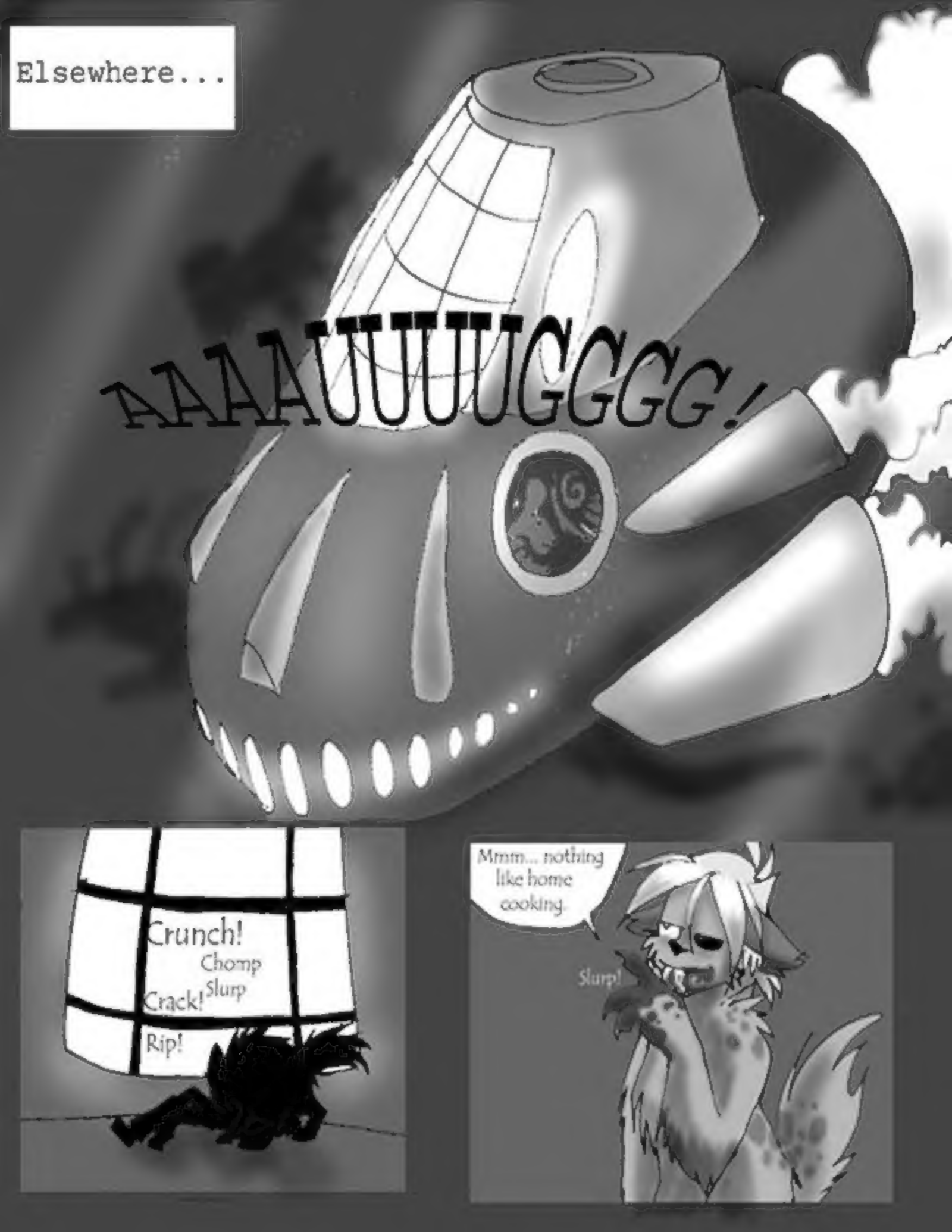
They barely know her, yet they're ready to follow her to the ends of the earth.
She trusted them when no one else would. I don't think they have ever met anyone like that.

But she brings grave tidings. Captain Snow, The Raven, all ten times as dangerous as a shadow queen.
Last night showed me how useless I will be against the coming storm.


Oh, stop whining. I've been eaten by demons loads of times.
This is serious Nim. My weakness could have hurt others... it could have hurt you.

I have a few demonhunter friends. I'll contact them at once. If we can gather our forces we might stand a chance.

Y'know, I think being half-digested has actually made you smarter. I won't have anything to worry about if I just stick with you.


Elsewhere...
AAAAUUUUGGGG!
Crunch!
Chomp
Slurp
Crack!
Rip!
Mmm... nothing like home cooking
Slurp!

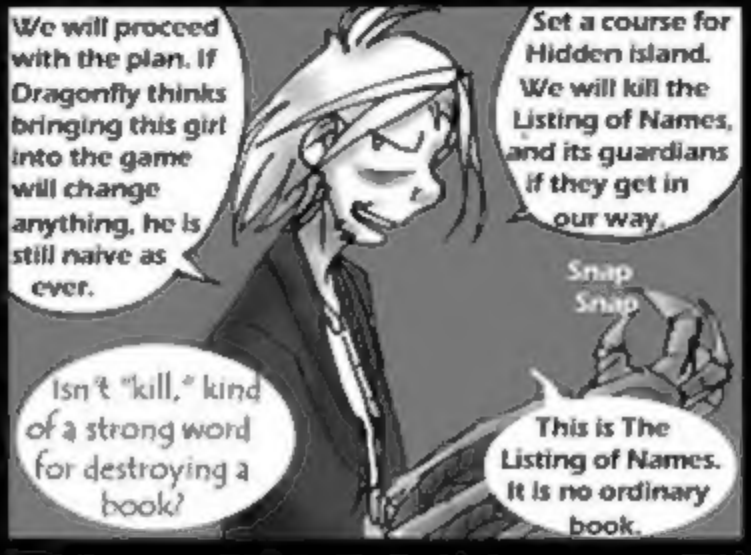
How are you enjoying yourself Kurr?
I'm having a fine time Captain. This ship we hijacked will serve us adequately, and the crew was fun to chase down.

I'm glad someone is having a good time. I just received news from The Raven. It seems the queen of shadows has been killed.
What, you mean Shadowmandra! What could have taken her out?

Do you remember the dark-haired girl we sunk on the last submarine?
Crunch Crunch
Oh, you can't be serious! Her? How did she even survive that?!

You don't know that girl like I do, Kurr. I studied her for years. She is deceptively resourceful.
What's more, she was able to befriend one of the minor ravens! Imagine, one of those automatons, going against its very nature! Isn't it fascinating?
Click click whrrrr

Sheesh, you sound like you want to marry her. How does this change the plan? Do I still get to kill people?
Wipe Wipe


We will proceed with the plan. If Dragonfly thinks bringing this girl into the game will change anything, he is still naive as ever.
Set a course for Hidden Island. We will kill the Listing of Names, and its guardians if they get in our way.
Snap Snap
Isn't "kill," kind of a strong word for destroying a book?
This is The Listing of Names. It is no ordinary book.

Hanl Where are you? Set a course for Hidden Island immediately.
Psshhht!
Click click click
Hsss!

Whisper
Did you hear me? Get to that helm!
Awww, but I'm playing with Knull!
Oh, fine, five more minutes.

Hello again, Prince. It must be very lonely, locked up in there all day.
Zwick!

(Throb)
(Throb)
But don't worry. Soon, there will be five new souls joining you in your prison.
Click click click

Dear Credenza... you've entered into a brand new game... but you hardly know who the players are...

...and the next move is mine.
To Be Continued....